

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04207 01 OF 03 261521Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 NEAE-00 SSM-05 IO-14 ACDA-10 TRSE-00

OMB-01 EUR-12 /110 W

-----082261 261554Z /45

P R 261415Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2521

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 AMMAN 4207

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, JO, XF

SUBJECT: HUSSEIN UPI INTERVIEW JULY 26

1. TEXT FOLLOWS UPI STORY FILED AMMAN, JULY 26, COVERING INTERVIEW WITH KING HUSSEIN AND GIVING CONCISE CAPSULIZATION OF HIS POSITION ON LARGE NUMBER OF RECENT ISSUES.

2. QTE KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN SAYS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A KEY ROLE OF THE "GREATEST IMPORTANCE" TO PLAY IN ACHIEVING A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND WARNS THAT IF PEACE MOVES FAIL, WAR AND UPHEAVALS THROUGHOUT THE REGION ARE INEVITABLE.

IN A WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW WITH UPI AND UPITN (UNITED PRESS INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NEWS), THE 42-YEAR-OLD HAHSEMITTE MONARCH:

--EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE WOULD BRING A CLEAR-CUT AMERICAN POSITION TO THE MIDDLE EAST
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 AMMAN 04207 01 OF 03 261521Z

ON HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP FOLLOWING PRESIDENT CARTER'S CONTACTS WITH MIDDLE EAST LEADERS;

--CAUTIONED THAT WITHOUT CAREFUL GROUNDWORK, ABOVE ALL BY THE UNITED STATES, GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD FAIL WITH "DISASTROUS" RESULTS;

--SAID THERE WILL BE NO SOLUTION TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT UNTIL ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 AND THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS ARE RECOGNIZED;

--DECLARED THAT ARAB MODERATES WOULD BE UNABLE TO PURSUE THEIR POLICIES IF THESE POLICIES PRODUCED NO RESULTS AND SAID "A RADICAL WAVE WILL OVERRUN THE AREA IF THERE IS NO PROGRESS TOWARDS A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE";

--WARNED THAT CONTINUE FIGHTING IN SOUTH LEBANON COULD PROVIDE THE "FLASHPOINT THAT COULD ENVELOPE THE ENTIRE AREA IN A CONFRONTATION";

--RECOGNIZED THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS BUT SAID NO AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK WILL BE MEANINGFUL UNTIL THE RESIDENTS OF THE TERRITORY CHOOSE THEIR OWN LEADERSHIP AND DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES THE DIRECTION OF THEIR POLITICAL FUTURE;

--SAID ALLEGATIONS HE HAD RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) WERE A "CLOSED CHAPTER AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED",

"GENEVA SEEMS TO BE THE TARGET," HUSSEIN SAID, "BUT I FEEL THAT WITHOUT ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND A LOT OF GROUNDWORK, ABOVE ALL BY THE UNITED STATES, THE RESULTS MIGHT BE DISASTROUS."
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 AMMAN 04207 01 OF 03 261521Z

"IF PEACE MOVES FAIL, NOT ONLY IS WAR INEVITABLE, BUT I BELIEVE PRIOR TO THAT UPHEAVALS IN THE ENTIRE AREA ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR AND THE EFFECTS MIGHT BE FAR-REACHING IN TERMS OF THE DANGER TO WORLD PEACE."

COMMENTING ON THE TRIP SECRETARY VANCE WILL MAKE TO THE REGION IN THE BEGINNING OF AUGUST, HUSSEIN SAID "I AM HOPING THAT WHAT WILL DEVOLVE IS A POSITION OR AT LEAST A FRAMEWORK WHICH WOULD BE ADOPTED BY THE UNITED STATES."

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04207 02 OF 03 261528Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 NEAE-00 SSM-05 IO-14 ACDA-10 TRSE-00

OMB-01 EUR-12 /110 W

-----082375 261554Z /45

P R 261415Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2522

INFO AMEMB BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMB DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 AMMAN 4207

DECLARING THAT THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES
WAS OF THE "GREATEST IMPORTANCE, "HE ADDED,
"I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WILL BRING BUT I THINK
THERE IS A STRONG CHANCE OUR FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON HAVE
AN IDEA WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE FOLLOWING CONTACTS WITH ALL
CONCERNED IN THE AREA."

REFERRING TO THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S CALLS FOR
ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY
AND FOR A PALESTINIAN "HOMELAND" OR "ENTITY", THE MONARCH
SAID "THE COURAGEOUS STAND OF PRESIDENT CARTER UNTIL NOW HAS
BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING. ON THE OTHER HAND, I CAN SEE NO
SOLUTION WITHOUT THE RETURN OF THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, THE ARAB
TERRITORIES AND PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967, AND
RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS--THEIR RIGHT TO
SELF-DETERMINATION, TO INDICATE THEIR OPINION REGARDING THEIR
FUTURE, REGARDING A LINK WITH JORDAN, REGARDING THEIR LEADERSHIP--
RIGHTS THEY HAVE BEEN DENIED THROUGHOUT THE MANY TRAGIC YEARS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 AMMAN 04207 02 OF 03 261528Z

THAT HAVE PASSED."

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN HAS INDICATED WILLINGNESS
TO PULL OUT OF THE SINAI PENINSULA AND GOLAN HEIGHTS, BUT NOT THE
WEST BANK. HE HAS FLATLY RULED OUT CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN
STATE ON THE WEST BANK--EVEN WITH TIES TO JORDAN, LET ALONE
AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE.

"IF (ISRAEL HAS) NO INCLINATION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE OCCUPIED
PALESTINIAN TERRITORY," HUSSEIN SAID, "THEN I BELIEVE WE ARE
FACING A SERIOUS CRISIS."

HUSSEIN SAID "THERE ARE TREMENDOUS OBSTACLES AHEAD, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS THE FACT THAT ISRAEL IS STRONGER THAN EVER MILITARILY AND HER LEADERSHIP IS KNOWN TO BE EXTREME BOTH IN TERMS OF ITS VIEWS AND ATTITUDES. THE DANGER IS THERE AND I HAVE WARNED MANY A TIME AGAINST OVER-OPTIMISM."

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT THE ARABS WOULD TURN INCREASINGLY TO THE SOVIET UNION IN THE EVENT THAT U.S.-SPONSORED PEACE EFFORTS FAILED, HE SAID:

"I DON'T THINK OF NECESSITY THIS WOULD HAPPEN BUT A MORE RADICAL WAVE WOULD OVERRUN THIS AREA IF THERE WAS NO PROGRESS TOWARDS A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE. (IT WOULD BE) ONE OF DESPAIR AND DESPONDENCY, CONTINUED SUFFERING--THE PENDULUM WOULD BEGIN TO SWING THE OTHER WAY. THOSE WHO APPEAR TO BE--AND GENUINELY ARE--CONCERNED THAT MODERATION, REASON AND LOGIC SHOULD PREVAIL WOULD FIND DIFFICULTIES IN PURSUING THEIR POLICIES IF THESE POLICIES PROVE FRUITLESS IN TERMS OF RESULTS."

WHEN PRESSED IF HE THOUGHT THE RADICALIZING TREND WOULD EXTEND NOT ONLY TO THE CONFRONTATION STATES, BUT ALSO TO THE OIL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 AMMAN 04207 02 OF 03 261528Z

STATES OF THE GULF, HUSSEIN SAID, "I THINK THE DANGER IS IMMENSE."

HE SINGLED OUT THE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON, WHERE ISRAELI -SUPPORTED CHRISTIAN RIGHTISTS CONTINUE TO BATTLE PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS AND LEBANESE LEFTISTS DESPITE EFFORTS TO ARRANGE A CEASE FIRE, AS "DANGEROUS, A HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION THAT COULD BE IGNITED AT ANY TIME."

THE KING EXPRESSED THE FEAR OF ISRAELI LEADERS THINKING IN "ADVENTUROUS TERMS" AND SAID, "I DON'T THINK SOUTH LEBANON IS THE ONLY TARGET (BUT) THAT IT MIGHT BE THE FLASHPOINT THAT COULD INVOLVE THIS ENTIRE AREA IN A NEW CONFRONTATION WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS."

HUSSEIN COMMENTED ON THE CLASHES BETWEEN EGYPT AND LIBYA, AS WELL AS OTHER INTRA-ARAB DISPUTES, BY SAYING "I MUST SAY, I REGRET VERY MUCH AND FEEL VERY SORRY AT THE DIFFERENCES THAT HAVE REACHED A DANGEROUS POINT BETWEEN VARIOUS ARAB STATES AT THIS CCRITICAL TIME. I HOPE AND PRAY THEY ARE JUST A PASSING PHASE AND THAT SOMEHOW, SOMETIME, WE WILL BE ABLE TO REORGANIZE OURSELVES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04207 03 OF 03 261536Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 NEAE-00 SSM-05 IO-14 ACDA-10 TRSE-00
OMB-01 EUR-12 /110 W
-----082454 261555Z /45

P R 261415Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2523
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRJUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 AMMAN 4207

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, JO, XF
SUBJECT: HUSSEIN UPI INTERVIEW JULY 26

AND RE-ESTABLISH RELATIONS BETWEEN ALL OF US
IN THE VERY BEST POSSIBLE MANNER."

TURNING TO THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A
PALESTINIAN STATE ON THE WEST BANK AND GAZA
STRIP AND THE PROBLEM OF HIS RELATIONS WITH THE PLO,
WHICH WERE BADLY DAMAGED WHEN HE USED HIS ARMY
TO THROW THE GUERRILLA ORGANIZATION OUT OF JORDAN
IN 1970-71, HUSSEIN SAID: "REALITIES, CONCERN FOR
A CAUSE, MUST BRING US TOGETHER TO AT LEAST TALK
AND SEEK AREAS OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING."

REFERRING TO HIS 1972 "UNITED KINGDOM PLAN"
FOR UNITING THE JORDANIAN EAST BANK AND THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 AMMAN 04207 03 OF 03 261536Z

PREDOMINANTLY PALESTINIAN WEST BANK, HE SAID "WE
CAME UP WITH A SUGGESTION SOME YEARS AGO AS TO
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN TERMS OF THE FUTURE OF THESE
TERRITORIES UNDER OCCUPATION. THE MERE IDEA WAS

UNDER VERY HEAVY CRITICISM FOR A WHILE, BUT IT SEEMS THAT MANY IN THE AREA ARE THINKING ALONG THESE LINES ONCE AGAIN.

"WE CAN TALK WITH THE PLO REGARDING THE FUTURE. WE HAVE ADOPTED THE (1974) RABAT SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS RECOGNIZING THE PLO AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS IN ANY PROCESS LEADING TO A SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM."

HOWEVER, REFERRING TO THE PROPOSAL THAT A FUTURE WEST BANK PALESTINIAN STATE BE LINKED TO JORDAN, HE SAID THE RELATIONSHIP "CAN NEVER TAKE ANY FINAL FORM UNTIL AND UNLESS--UNDER CONDITIONS OF TOTAL FREEDOM--THE PALESTINIANS ON THE ONE HAND...AND THE JORDANIANS ON THE OTHER...HAVE A CHANCE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS REGARDING THEIR LEADERSHIP AND THESE IDEAS." HE DECLARED THAT NO SOLUTION FOR THE WEST BANK WILL EVER BE "LEGAL, BINDING OR MEANINGFUL UNLESS THE PALESTINIANS EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION."

ASKED IF HE THOUGHT A PALESTINIAN WEST BANK STATE WOULD OPT FOR CLOSE TIES WITH JORDAN, HUSSEIN SAID, "I HAVE GREAT FAITH IN THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF PALESTINIANS. I BELIEVE THEY SEEK A LIFE OF DIGNITY AND FREEDOM. THEY SEEK THEIR RIGHTS AND GIVEN A CHANCE--WITHOUT ANY FORM OF PRESSURE FROM ANY QUARTER UNDER CONDITIONS OF FREEDOM--WHATEVER

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 AMMAN 04207 03 OF 03 261536Z

THEIR CHOICE, I BELIEVE IT IS ONE WE CAN LIVE WITH." BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE "PEOPLE THEMSELVES" MUST APPROVE "ANY ARRANGEMENT THAT WE MIGHT REACH WITH THE PLO AFTER THE LIBERATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES."

ON OTHER SUBJECTS, HUSSEIN DISMISSED UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS OF A COUP ATTEMPT IN MAY BY SAYING "I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND IN MYSELF AND THERE WAS NOTHING THAT ACTUALLY COULD HAVE PROVIDED THE BASIS FOR SUCH SPECULATION."

HE SAID ALLEGATIONS HE HAD RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE CIA WERE "A CLOSED CHAPTER AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED."

"OUR RELATIONS WERE BASED ON COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALL ITS BRANCHES TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF BOTH OUR

COUNTRIES WHEREVER THERE WAS A COMMON INTEREST.
HELP TO JORDAN IS DIFFERENT THAN HELP TO KING
HUSSEIN. I'VE BEEN VERY SATISFIED BY THE RESPONSES
IN WASHINGTON AT THE VERY HIGHEST LEVELS."

LOOKING BACK OVER 25 YEARS ON THE HASHEMITE
THRONE, HUSSEIN SUMMED UP HIS ASPIRATIONS ON HIS
SILVER JUBILEE BY SAYING: "THESE YEARS HAVE BEEN
DISASTROUS IN SOME RESPECTS, FRUITFUL IN OTHERS.
WE HAVE BECOME A NATION. WE HAVE HAD THE COURAGE
AND ABILITY TO REBUILD FROM THE RUINS, A NEW
JORDAN FROM 1967. WHAT REMAINS FOR ME IS TO
HOPE THERE IS SOME WAY I CAN INFLUENCE EVENTS
AND POSSIBLY HELP THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST
AND DURABLE PEACE IN THIS AREA. THIS IS
CERTAINLY THE TARGET AND AIM I HAVE LEFT IN LIFE.
SOMEHOW I HOPE I MIGHT SUCCEED. END TEXT.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 AMMAN 04207 03 OF 03 261536Z

PICKERING

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977AMMAN04207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770266-0474
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770720/aaaaardi.tel
Line Count: 356
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eb030e64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1754150
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUSSEIN UPI INTERVIEW JULY 26
TAGS: PBOR, SOPN, JO, XF, UPI, (HUSSEIN I)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb030e64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009